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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/759,633	01/12/2001	Leping Li	018781-003810	2302

20350 7590 06/18/2003

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EXAMINER

SMALL, ANDREA D SOUZA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1626

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/759,633

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Andrea D Small

Art Unit

1626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *I. Preliminary Matters:*

- (a) Claim of priority to provisional application 60/175,892 is acknowledged.
- (b) Claims 1-34 are pending.

### *II. Election/Restrictions:*

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Claims 1-34 are inclusive of patentably distinct subject matter, which must be further restricted because patentably distinct species may be included together in a generic claim only where the number of species is *reasonable* and where there is *no* serious burden on the examiner to examine all the grouped distinct species in one application. Accordingly, the following action is also taken.

It is to be noted that the following action is a restriction requirement placed on the instant claims; they are NOT being rejected as being an improper Markush claim. The entire contents of the claims will eventually be examined, either as elected subject matter in the instant application or as elected subject matter in divisional applications. Claim 1 is generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising, for example, the compounds of (1) Example 119, page 69, Example 123, page 71, etc. Each species differs one from the other in structure and element and have each acquired separate status in the art. For example, the pyrrolodine species of formula I, may be classified in class 548, subclass 451+; the benzodioxolane species of formula I, is classified in class 549, subclass 152+; the amino species of formula I, is classified in class 564, subclass 200+, etc.

The search required, both electronic and manual database, for each of the patentably distinct species is separate and involves separate search considerations and search strategies. These searches are not co-extensive and the evaluation of the search results are divergent, so much so that searching for a reference that would anticipate a reasonably grouped invention identified supra would not even render the non-elected invention obvious. Therefore, a serious burden would be placed on the office if restriction between these groupings were not required.

A precise listing of all the possible groups of inventions cannot be made due to the sheer volume of species encompassed by the instant claims. Consequently, Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species or single preferred embodiment of their invention, even though this requirement is traversed. Additionally, whatever specific compound is ultimately elected, applicants are required to list all claims readable thereon.

Upon the election of a single disclosed species (e.g. Example, page number and structural depiction) or a preferred embodiment of the invention, a generic concept, inclusive of the elected species, will be identified by the Examiner for examination. This generic concept will establish the elected group to be examined and the remaining subject matter not within the confines of the generic concept will be withdrawn as non-elected subject matter. This subject matter may then be pursued in divisional applications as is Applicants right under 37 CFR 1.142(b).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement is traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i)

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

### ***III. Contact Information:***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea D. Small, whose telephone number is (703) 305-0811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (703) 308-4537. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7921. The Official fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [Joseph.McKane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

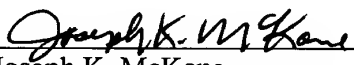
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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1234

Andrea D. Small, Esq.  
June 16, 2003

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph K. McKane  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 1626  
Technology Center 1